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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/560,446	04/28/2000	Yee Kong Ng	IS / 070 CONT.	3195

7590   03/16/2004

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EXAMINER
NGUYEN, HUY THANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2615	

DATE MAILED: 03/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	**Applicant(s)**
Office Action Summary	09/560,446	NG, YEE KONG
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	HUY T NGUYEN	2615	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-28* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) *5,18,19 and 23-25* is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-4,6-17,20-22,25,27 and 28* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) *3* .   6)☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2.   Claims 1,2,9-13,20 and 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Pocock et al (5,014,125).

Regarding claims 1 and 10, Pocock et al   discloses a method of remotely

accessing and controlling individually addressable user information receiving terminals

comprising the steps of:

generating at each user terminal an identifier or address that is different from the

identifiers at the other user terminals (column 10, lines 5-20, column 15, lines 25-30);

transmitting point-to-point from a selected one of the user terminals to a remote

site the identifier for the selected user terminal and a request for controlling the selected

user terminal by using telephone line (column 14, lines 65-68,column 15, lines 25-30,

column 14, lines column 16, lines 6-15, column 20, lines 35-60);

inserting into a telecast information signal at the remote site the identifier

for the selected user terminal and a control signal instructing the selected user terminal

to implement the request (column 15, lines 45-55, column 16, lines 18-25) ;

transmitting the telecast signal, including the identifier and the control

signal, from the remote site to the user terminals;

extracting the identifier for the selected user terminal and the control

signal from the telecast signal at the user terminals (column 15, line 58 to column 16,

line 15); and

controlling the selected user terminal to implement the request responsive

to the identifier only at the selected user terminal (column 17, lines 5-27).

Regarding claim 2, Pocock further teaches the generating step comprises

generating the identifier responsive to conditions at the time of initial operation of the

user terminal .

Regarding claim 9, Pocock further teaches that the remote site is a television

transmitter or head end, the signal is a television signal having a vertical blanking

interval, and the inserting step comprises inserting the identifier and the control signal

into the vertical blanking interval of the television signal (column 17, lines 5-27).

Regarding claims 11 and 12, Pocock teaches the information contained in the

television signal is data embedded in the television signal in a vertical blanking interval

line (column 15, lines 50-68).

Regarding claim 13, Pocock further teaches the step of transmitting the identification signals to the central telecast site comprises transmitting the identification signals over a telephone line (column 10 lines 5-13).

Regarding claim 20, Pocock discloses a method of selectively receiving information contained in a television signal telecast from a central site at an individually addressable user terminal having a television tuner comprising at the user terminal the steps of:

generating an address that uniquely identifies the user terminal (column 10, lines 5-11, column 15, and lines 25-35);

storing the unique address (column 15, lines 29-35);

transmitting the unique address to the central site (column 15, lines 25-35);

receiving a television signal containing information and a user terminal address from the central site (column 15, lines 50-55, column 16, lines 18-20);

comparing the stored address to the address contained in the television signal (column 15, lines 60 to column 16, line15); and

utilizing the information contained in the television signal if the addresses match (column 17, lines 3-18).

Regarding claim 25 , Pocock further teaches displaying the identifier and communication between the remote side and terminal (column 16, lines 41-6).

Regarding claim 27, Pocock further the step of generating the unique addresses at the respective user terminals (column 10, lines 1-13).

Regarding claim 28, Pocock further teaches that the generating step generates the unique addresses based on actions of users of the user terminals (column 10, lines 1-13).

3.   Claims 1 ,2,9-13,20,25 and 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Citta (4,554,579).

Regarding claims 1,10 and 20, Citta   discloses a method of remotely accessing and controlling individually addressable user information receiving terminals comprising the steps of:

generating at each user terminal an identifier or address that is different from the identifiers at the other user terminals (column 1, lines 49-55, , column 4, lines 15-20, column 6, lines 25-33, column 3, lines 1-15);

transmitting point-to-point from a selected one of the user terminals to a remote site the identifier for the selected user terminal and a request for controlling the selected user terminal (column 4, lines 15-20, column 6, lines 25-33 .

inserting into a telecast information signal at the remote site the identifier for the selected user terminal and a control signal instructing the selected user terminal to implement the request (column 2, lines 50-60) ;

transmitting the telecast signal, including the identifier and the control signal, from the remote site to the user terminals;

extracting the identifier for the selected user terminal and the control

extracting the identifier for the selected user terminal and the control signal from the

telecast signal at the user terminals (column 3, lines 55-65, column8, lines 53-68); and

controlling the selected user terminal to implement the request responsive

to the identifier only at the selected user terminal (column 8, lines 53-68).

Regarding claims 2, 27 and 28, Citta further teaches the generating step

comprises generating the identifier responsive to conditions at the time of initial

operation of the user terminal since the use input the identifier and control command .

Regarding claim 9, Citta further teaches that the remote site is a television

transmitter or head end, the signal is a television signal having a vertical blanking

interval, and the inserting step comprises inserting the identifier and the control signal

into the vertical blanking interval of the television signal (column 4, lines 15-20, column

6, lines 25-33).

Regarding claims 11 and 12, Citta teaches the information contained in the

television signal is data embedded in the television signal in a vertical blanking interval

line (column 4, lines 15-20, column 6, lines 25-33).

Regarding claim 25 , Citta further teaches displaying the identifier and

communication between the remote side and terminal (column 7, line 65 to column 8,

line 25).

4.   Claims 1 ,2, 6-7, 9-16,20-22,24-25 and 27-28 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yuen et al (6,091,844).

Regarding claims 1, 10 and 20, Yuen (6,091,884) discloses a method of remotely accessing and controlling individually addressable user information receiving terminals (columns 91-93) comprising the steps of:

generating at each user terminal an identifier or address that is different from the identifiers at the other user terminals (column 91, lines 25-50);

transmitting point-to-point from a selected one of the user terminals to a remote site the identifier for the selected user terminal and a request for controlling the selected user terminal by using telephone line ;

inserting into a telecast information signal at the remote site the identifier for the selected user terminal and a control signal instructing the selected user terminal to implement the request (column 91, lines 55-65);

transmitting the telecast signal, including the identifier and the control signal, from the remote site to the user terminals;

extracting the identifier for the selected user terminal and the control signal from the telecast signal at the user terminals (column 92, lines 1-13); and

controlling the selected user terminal to implement the request responsive to the identifier only at the selected user terminal (column 92, lines 7-13).

Regarding claims 2,21 and 27-28, Yuen further teaches the generating step comprises generating the identifier responsive to conditions at the time of initial operation of the user terminal (column 92, lines 12-25)).

Regarding claim 3, Yuen further teaches the generating step comprises generating a random number to serve as the identifier (column 92).

Regarding claims 4 and 22, Yuen further teaches the generation of the random number is dependent on actions of the user (column 92).

Regarding claim 6 and 14, Yuen further teaches that the user terminal is a video cassette recorder and the request for controlling the user terminal comprises selection criteria for programming the video cassette recorder to record selected programs (column 91,lnes 50-55).

Regarding claim 7, Yuen further teaches that the control signal includes channel, date, time-of day, and program length data signals (column 92, lines 5-14).

Regarding claim 9, Yuen further teaches that the remote site is a television transmitter or head end, the signal is a television signal having a vertical blanking interval, and the inserting step comprises inserting the identifier and the control signal into the vertical blanking interval of the television signal (column 91, line 55 to column 92, line 14).

Regarding claims 10 and 20, Yuen discloses a method for selectively transmitting information contained in a television signal from a central telecast site to a plurality of user terminals having television tuners, the method comprising the steps of:

Regarding claims 11 and 12, Yuen further teaches the information contained in the television signal is data embedded in the television signal in a vertical blanking interval line (column 91, line 55-68).

Regarding claim 13, Yuen further teaches the identification signals to the central telecast site comprises transmitting the identification signals over a telephone line (column 91, lines 30-55).

Regarding claims 14- 15, Yuen further teaches that the information comprises commands for programming a video cassette recorder and the utilizing step comprises programming the video cassette recorder to record a program (column 91, lines 30- column 92, line 14).

Regarding claim 16, Yuen further teaches that the commands include channel, date, and time and program length data (column 92, lines 1-14).

Regarding claim 25, Yuen further teaches the step of displaying the generated identifier at the selected user terminal to communicate such identifier to a user, the transmitting step comprising calling the remote site, communicating the displayed identifier to the remote site, selecting a request from a number of choices, and communicating the request to the remote site (column 91, lines 20-50).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6.   Claims 8 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuen et al in view of Yuen et al (5,532,732).

Regarding claims 8 and 17, Yuen (6,091,844) fails to specifically teaches that the control signals that are the channel, date, time-of-day, and program length data signals are in the form of a compressed code.

However, it is noted that using compression code that including channel, date, time of day and program length data in form of a compressed code transmitted in a vertical blanking interval of a television signal is well known in the art as taught by Yuen et al (5,532,732). Yuen (5,532,732) teaches an apparatus having a decoding means for receiving the compressed code embedded in a television signal decoding the compressed coded to a programming information used to control a VCR in recording a specified television signal in order to . Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Yuen (6,091,844) with Yuen (5,532,732) by using compressed code of channel, date , time and program length as control signal embedded in a television signal and decoding means as taught by Yuen (5,532,732). with the VCR of Yuen (6,091,844) thereby enhancing the capacity and functionality of the VCR of Yuen in recording a specified television signal therefore provide more convenience to the user .

7.   Claims 6-8 and 14-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Citta in view of Yuen et al (5,532,732).

Regarding claims 6- 8 and 14- 17, Citta further teaches that the control signal further comprising programming for video signal but fails to specifically teaches that the control signal that are the channel, date, time-of-day, and program length data signals are in the form of a compressed code used for control the recorder .

However, it is noted that using compression code that including channel, date,

time of day and program length data in form of a compressed code transmitted in a

vertical blanking interval of a television signal is well known in the art as taught by

Yuen et al (5,532,732) and used for controlling a video cassette recorder is well known

in the at as taught by Yuen . Yuen teaches an apparatus having a decoding means

for receiving the compressed code embedded in a television signal decoding the

compressed coded to a programming information used to control a VCR in recording

a specified television signal in order to . Therefore, it would have been obvious to one

of ordinary skill in the art to modify Citta with Yuen by using compressed code of

channel, date , time and program length as control signal embedded in a television

signal and decoding means as taught by Citta with the VCR of Yuen thereby

enhancing the capacity and functionality of the apparatus of Citta in recording a

specified television signal therefore provide more convenience to the user .

8.   Claims 6-7,13 and 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Citta in view of Hoft (5,016,273).

Regarding claims 6-7 and 14-16, Citta further teaches that the request

comprising programming data bur fails to teach that the user terminal further

including a recorder and the request for controlling the terminal is a programming to

control the recorder . Hoft teaches a terminal including a recorder and a user request

for controlling the terminal is a programming to control the recorder to record a

program (column 9, lines 25-60) . It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in

the at to modify Citta with Hoft by using the teaching of Hoft for using a recorder with the

terminal and modify the   user request to including programming containing channel,
date, and length data of a pram used for controlling the recorder thereby enhancing the
function and capacity of terminal apparatus of Citta for further controlling a recorder.

Regarding claim 13, Citta fails to teach that the step of transmitting the
identification signals to the central telecast site comprises transmitting the identification
signals over a telephone line. Hoft teaches a user terminal equip with a recorder having
means for generating and transmitting an ID signal to a remote side using a telephone
line (column 9, lines 25-60). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the at
to modify Citta with Hoft by using the teaching of Hoft for using a telephone line   for
transmitting the ID signal and request signal of Citta as an alternative transmitting
method.

Allowable Subject Matter

9.   Claims 5 and 18-19,23-24 and 26 are objected to as being dependent upon a
rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all
of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

10.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to
applicant's disclosure. Vogel teaches system for transmitting a control signal either
separated from a video signal or embedded in a video signal to control a recorder to
record the video signal .

11.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to HUY T NGUYEN whose telephone number is (703) 305-

4775. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM -6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Andrew Christensen can be reached on (703) 308-9644. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)

872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-

0377.

HUY NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

H.N